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Introducing the new CUHA Beat

Welcome to the re-launch of the CUHA Beat! Along with the visual makeover, you'll notice a new emphasis on technical case studies, with more details on specific symptoms, tests, and treatments on some of our more medically informative cases.

Our goal is to continue to bring you relevant and noteworthy stories from the Cornell University Hospital for Animals, while better tailoring our content to your interests and needs. To do that better, we need your feedback. What types of CUHA stories do you most enjoy reading? What would you like to see more or less of? We'd love to hear from you.

Please send all replies to cornellvet@cornell.edu.

Thanks,
The CUHA Beat Editorial Team

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Warnick appointed as interim dean, Thompson becomes interim CUHA director

Lorin Warnick	Dr. Lorin D. Warnick, professor of ambulatory and production medicine, has been appointed interim dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. Warnick has served as associate dean for veterinary education for the past eight years and director of Cornell University Hospital for Animals the past three years. He replaces Dr. Michael Kotlikoff, who was appointed as Provost of Cornell University August 1. A search for Kotlikoff's successor will begin in the coming weeks.
Dr. Meg Thompson	Dr. Meg Thompson has agreed to serve as interim director of the Cornell University Hospital for Animals (CUHA) and her appointment took effect on August 1. Dr. Thompson, associate clinical professor in the department of Clinical Science, is board-certified in the American College of Veterinary Radiology. In the hospital, she has served for several years

as imaging section chief and for the last year as a medical director and member of the hospital executive committee. She has led college continuing education programs first as chair of the continuing education committee and for the past three years as director of continuing education.

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Welcome to our new interns and residents

We would like to welcome are newest group of interns and residents joining the Cornell University Hospital for Animals. They will be actively working with CUHA staff veterinarians and faculty, as well as patients and owners as they embark on this key stage of their professional training.

Name	Title	Veterinary College	Section	
Antonia "Tonie" Domino	Resident	Cornell University	Ambulatory & Production Medicine	no image available
Vinicius Machado	Resident	Universidade Federal de Goias	Ambulatory & Production Medicine	Vinicius Machado, Resident
Brieuc Cossic	Resident	University of Liege	Anatomic Pathology	no image available
Joseph Malatos	Resident	North Carolina State	Anatomic Pathology	no image available
Mason Jager	Resident	Cornell University	Anatomic Pathology	no image available
Chia "Joy" Tseng	Resident	Cornell University	Anesthesiology	Joy Tseng, Resident
Dean Jeffery	Resident	Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan	CARE-Lab Animal Medicine	Dean Jeffery, Resident
Daniela Hernandez Muquiro	Resident	University of Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico	Clinical Pathology	Daniela Hernandez Muquiro, Resident

Erin Elizabeth Epperly	Resident	Colorado State University	Imaging	Erin Elizabeth Epperly, Resident
Ian Porter	Resident	Atlantic Veterinary College	Imaging	Ian Porter, Resident
Emma Gorenberg	Resident	University of Pennsylvania	Large Animal Medicine	Emma Gorenberg, Resident
Elaine Flory	Resident	Virginia Maryland Regional College	Large Animal Surgery	Elaine Flory, Resident
Lillie Davis	Resident	Cornell University	Medical Oncology	Lillie Davis, Resident
Baye Williamson	Resident	University of Tennessee	Neurology	Baye Williamson, Resident
Amanda Heller	Resident	Oklahoma State University	Ophthalmology	Amanda Heller, Resident
Erik Zager	Resident	Cornell University	Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care	Erik Zager, Resident
Mariana Pardo	Resident	Universidad Mayor, Santiago, Chile	Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care	Mariana Pardo, Resident
Alyssa Marie Chandler	Resident	Cornell University	Small Animal Medicine	Alyssa Chandler, Resident
Tomasina Lucia	Resident	Washington State University	Small Animal Medicine	Tomasina Lucia, Resident
Blake Travis	Resident	University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine	Small Animal Surgery	Blake Travis, Resident
Jenna Corinne Dockweiler	Resident	Kansas State University	Theriogenology	Jenna Dockweiler, Resident
Sage Buckner	Intern	University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine	Ambulatory & Production Medicine	Sage Buckner, Intern
James William John Marmion	Intern	Murdoch University, Perth Western Australia	Cornell Ruffian Equine Specialists	no image available
Kathleen Hunter	Intern	University of Glasgow, Scotland	Cornell Ruffian Equine Specialists	no image available
Sarah Robbins	Intern	University of Georgia	Emergency Critical Care	Sarah Robbins, Intern
Debra Barbarits	Intern	The Ohio State University	Exotic Pet & Wildlife Medicine	Debra Barbarits, Intern
Kayla Le	Intern	Kansas State University	Large Animal Surgery	Kayla Le, Intern
Jodi Boyd	Intern	Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph	Shelter Medicine	Jodi Boyd, Intern
Pia Martiny	Intern	Colorado State University	Small Animal Emergency & Critical Care	Pia Martiny, Intern
Erin Elizabeth Aufox	Intern	Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Erin Elizabeth Aufox, Intern
Jacob "Jake" Cawley	Intern	Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Jake Cawley, Intern
Kat Vissio	Intern	Cornell University	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Kat Vissio, Intern
Kristin Freund	Intern	Colorado State University	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Kristin Freund, Intern
Marc Myers	Intern	University of Pennsylvania	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Marc Myers, Intern

We will also be saying farewell to our departing group of interns and residents who have helped care and treat our CUHA patients during their time here. Thank you for your excellent work, and best of luck to all those moving on in their careers!

Name	Title	Section	Next Destination?
Jennifer Pearson	Resident	Ambulatory & Production Medicine	
Matthias Josef Wieland	Resident	Ambulatory & Production Medicine	
Martin Hugo Zinicola	Resident	Ambulatory & Production Medicine	
Maturawan Tunhikorn	Resident	Dermatology	
Stacy Cooley	Resident	Imaging	
Alana Rosenblatt	Resident	Imaging	
Emily Barrell	Resident	Large Animal Medicine	
Hayley Lang	Resident	Large Animal Surgery	Randwick Equine Centre, Sydney Australia
Wade Walker	Resident	Large Animal Surgery	
Susie Kang	Resident	Medical Oncology	Veterinary Cancer Group, Culver City, CA
Chelsie Estey	Resident	Neurology	
Lucien Vallone	Resident	Ophthalmology	
Clare Hyatt	Resident	Small Animal Emergency Critical Care	Phoenix Veterinary Referral, Phoenix, AZ
Valerie Madden	Resident	Small Animal Emergency Critical Care	
Danielle Davignon	Resident	Small Animal Medicine	Upstate Veterinary Specialties, Latham, NY
Pedro Alexandre Lopes Bento	Resident	Small Animal Medicine	
Marina McConkey**	Resident	Small Animal Surgery	Cornell Instructor of Small Animal Surgery
Sonya Lawlis	Resident	Theriogenology	
Rebekah Riedel	Intern	Exotic Pets & Wildlife Medicine	Indianapolis Zoo
Christina Delgado	Intern	Shelter Medicine	
Amberley "Tara" Amburgy	Intern	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Palm Beach Veterinary Specialist, West Palm Beach, FL
Tomasina Lucia*	Intern	Small Animal Rotating Internship	Cornell Resident in Small Animal Medicine
Myles Peter McKenna	Intern	Small Animal Rotating Internship	
Shannon Wainberg	Intern	Small Animal Rotating Internship	

** (starting as a Cornell instructor of Small Animal Surgery)

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Case Study: Equine patient with narrowed interspinous space

Background

The case of Monte, a five-year-old Thoroughbred gelding, first began a year ago when he started tossing his head under saddle and refusing to canter. He had been purchased six months earlier, off the track, and had no training issues during the first six months that he was owned. Monte was initially treated by a chiropractor and he continued to be exercised under the assumption that this was a training issue.

Over the next six months, Monte's signs progressed to kicking out when being asked to canter and appearing hypersensitive while being groomed. In January 2015, his referring veterinarian diagnosed him with severe spinal pain and took x-rays of his back. Spinal x-rays revealed a possible lesion at

T17/18, and Monte was referred to Cornell University Equine Hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

A full lameness exam reveals spinal issues

Under the care of the attending veterinarian, Jacqueline Hill, DVM and Service Chief Jon Cheetham, VetMB, PhD, DACVS, Monte underwent a full lameness exam including evaluation under saddle. On physical examination, he was hyperesthetic in the mid to caudal thoracic region and he resented manipulation of his back. Lameness exam revealed no apparent lameness but a stiff, stilted gait under saddle and each time Monte was asked to canter he would kick out, buck and be reluctant to pick up the canter. Given the referring veterinarian's suspicion and no other lameness identified, Monte had another set of back x-rays performed. X-rays showed narrowing of the interspinous space and sclerosis along the cranial and caudal margins of the dorsal spinous processes at T15/16 and T16/17 and mild narrowing between T14/15 and T17/18.

The recommended treatment: non-traditional spinal surgery

Based on Monte's clinical presentation and the changes seen on x-rays, surgery was recommended to transect the ligament between the dorsal spinous processes (the interspinous ligament). "The goal of this treatment is to both facilitate remobilization of the spine and provide pain relief through disruption of pain receptors located at the ligaments insertion," says Hill. "It's different from the traditional surgery that involves cutting the dorsal spinous processes themselves to create more space."

equine spinal radiograph

Figure 1: Lateral radiograph of the caudal thoracic vertebrae. Cranial is to the left and caudal to the right. There is narrowing of the intervertebral space and sclerosis of the dorsal spinous processes at T15/16 and T16/17 and mild narrowing at T14/15 and T17/18.

The following day Monte had surgery performed under standing sedation and with local nerve blocks. Radiographic guidance was used to position spinal needles between the affected dorsal spinous processes and the interspinous ligament at T14/15, T15/16, T16/17 and T17/18 was transected, each through a small skin incision made just to the left of midline.

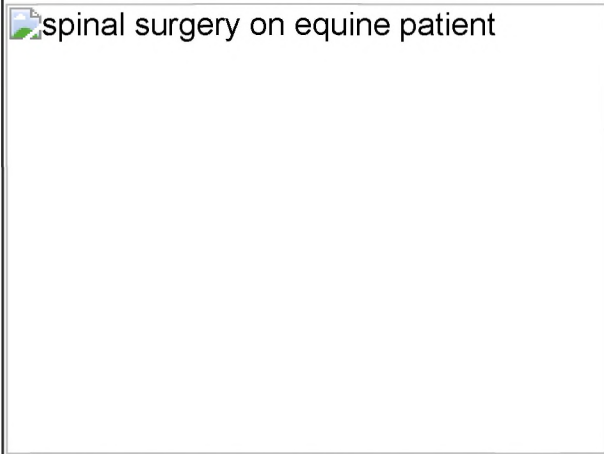
spinal surgery on equine patient

Figure 2: Photograph and corresponding radiograph of spinal needles correctly positioned in the interspinous space between the affected dorsal spinous processes. Cranial is to the left and caudal to the right.

Follow-up care and a stellar recovery

Monte was discharged the following day on trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (960mg tabs) twice daily for five days, and phenylbutazone, 1 gram twice daily, for seven days followed by ½ gram twice daily for an additional seven days. He was instructed to have stall rest with hand-walking for 30 minutes twice daily for the first three weeks after surgery, followed by small paddock turn out and daily lunging for an additional three weeks. Six weeks after surgery, Monte was started back under saddle.

Now, five months post-operative, “Monte is reported to be doing great!” says Hill. “He is being ridden again and has shown no signs of discomfort. He no longer tosses his head or bucks when being asked to canter, and he has even started jumping.”

Monte under saddle, post-recovery

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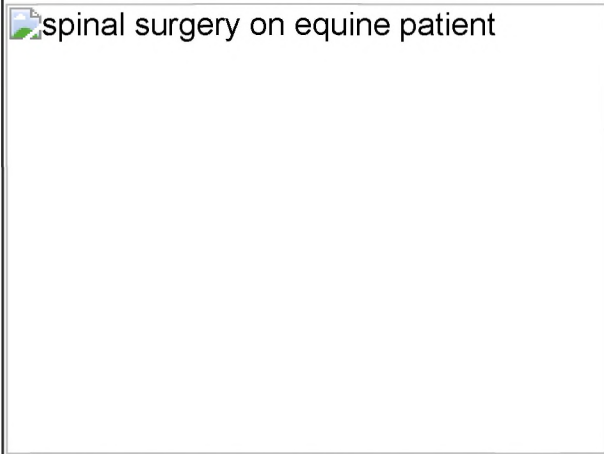
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Spotlight on continuing education

 [Register Now](#) [NYS Veterinary Conference Fall 2015](#)
October 16-18, 2015, Ithaca N.Y.

 New York State
Vet Conference
Logo

Join us for the 8th Annual New York State Fall Veterinary Conference, October 16th-18th, at

Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine in Ithaca, NY. This year's fall conference, co-sponsored by Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine and New York State Veterinary Medical Society (NYSVMS), will feature talks on oncology, companion animal reproduction, exotic species, practical pharmacology, equine cardiology, wound management, and general care of pet pigs. As always, the fall conference will offer a multi-species and multi-track program with a dedicated veterinary technician track.


Events will start with the Friday evening welcome reception, where attendees can mingle with exhibitors while sampling hors d'oeuvres and an array of Finger Lakes wines. Saturday night, NYSVMS and Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine invite you to attend the annual dinner party and awards ceremony at Celebrations. Multiple awards including the NYSVMS New York State Veterinarian of the Year, NYS-VC Outstanding Speaker Award, and the Daniel Elmer Salmon Award for Distinguished Alumni service will be presented.

[Register now](#) for the last fall conference in the current Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine space and get a preview of the College expansion project progress. When completed in the fall of 2017, the new College atrium will offer a spacious event space that our exhibitors and participants will enjoy.

Register Now [DeeDee Arrison holistic and integrative medicine seminar series and concert performance](#)

September 19-20, 2015, Ithaca, N.Y.

An annual event endowed by Clement and Karen Arrison, the DeeDee Arrison holistic and integrative medicine seminar series brings in leading speakers to raise awareness of holistic and integrative therapies for animals and also enables world-renown musicians to perform at the concert for the animals. The Arrison's beloved Briard, DeeDee, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in 2008, and was treated using an approach of different integrated modalities—including radiation treatments, Chinese medicine, and musical therapy. DeeDee enjoyed an additional 11 months with her family from the time of her initial diagnosis, defying an initial prognosis of just eight weeks.

 hand and paw

Attend this event at Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine for two days of continuing education seminars and laboratories, featuring:

Huisheng ("Shen") Xie, DVM, PhD, founder and president of the Chi Institute of Traditional Chinese Medicine; **Lauren Frank, DVM, CVA, CCRT, CVH**, instructor with the Chi Institute, and **Joseph J. Wakshlag, DVM, PhD**, associate professor and section chief of clinical nutrition, Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine.

DeeDee Arrison Holistic and Integrative Wellness Seminar

Saturday, September 19th

9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Lectures on the scientific basis of acupuncture; acupuncture points and meridians, and canine acupuncture lab.

DeeDee Arrison Concert for the Animals

Saturday, September 19th

Time TBD

This performance honors our animals and features rising star of the Stradivari Society Tim Fain accompanied by pianist Robert Koenig. Well-socialized animals are welcome.

 musicians

Chi Institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine Seminar

Sunday, September 20th

9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Lectures on five elements theory and application; treatment of OA and lameness; treatment of IVDD in dogs; and lab.

On-Going Continuing Education

CUHA evening continuing education series

The Cornell University Hospital for Animals is committed to helping veterinarians and technicians in the region meet their continuing education needs. The evening CE events target the veterinary team with both veterinarians and licensed veterinary technicians invited.

Online continuing education



Veritas is a unique partnership between Cornell University, Texas A&M, and Zoetis. It offers veterinarians, veterinary technicians and paraprofessionals, web-based, peer-reviewed continuing education utilizing the latest advances in online teaching technologies.